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causing HPV is available.
See page 10 for full article

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CONVERGING CAMPUS & COMMUNITY NWMISSOURIAN A

THURSDAY
Feb. 1, 2007
V81 / N18
www.nwmissourianews.com

\$78,400

in aid provided by
the Red Cross

8

Northwest students
displaced due to fire

\$600,000

of damage, not including
personal belongings

11

the temperature early
Saturday morning

MOURNFUL NIGHT



FLAMES BURST through the roof of Carson Apartments where two people died, and one was seriously injured on Saturday morning around 5 a.m. Officials said it started when a tenant, who was cooking French fries, fell asleep and awoke to a room full of flames and smoke that ultimately destroyed the building.

Lot becomes solemn relic

By Evan Young
Copy Editor

smoke still billows from the mound of charred bricks, splintered wood and blackened insulation at 214 W. First St.

Bouquets flaunting a full rainbow of colors cling to the thin orange safety fence swaying back and forth in the bitter winter wind.

Not quite a week has passed since firefighters and their equipment crowded the sidewalk and street in front of Carson Apartments, battling an inferno that claimed two lives and dramatically changed a third.

Now, that West First Street sidewalk is empty, save for the millions of brick shards and ashes fossilized in a thick layer of ice.

The early Saturday morning fire resulted in the deaths of Derrick Schafer, 28, of New Market, Iowa, and Brandon Kaut, 22, of Appleton City, Mo.

see RELIC on A5



A SIGN that reads "You will be in our hearts forever," can be seen on the fencing surrounding the ruins of Carson Apartments on Sunday night. Friends gathered around 8 p.m. to honor the memory of Brandon Kaut, who was one of the two people who died in the fire.

Red Cross helps victims adjust

By Andrea James
Chief Reporter

Photo by Mike Dye | Photography Editor
The firefighters finish their duty after Saturday's fire, Northwest and the Midland Empire Chapter of the American Red Cross, in St. Joseph step in to help people get back on their feet.

The Red Cross has met with 11 of the apartment's residents to assess their needs, said Karla Long, emergency services director for the chapter.

They are directly providing

between \$16,000 and \$18,000 in financial service.

"The money is going directly into those family's hands," Long said.

People who have been displaced by the fire will receive "assistance cards" from the Red Cross, according to a Red Cross press release. The assistance card allows these people to purchase food, clothes and anything else they may need to get back on their feet.

The Red Cross also will pay for

see RED CROSS on A5

BUILDING BRIDGES PROJECT

Funding next step for proposal

By Kristin Summers
University Editor

Finding funds is next on the agenda for Northwest President Dean Hubbard.

After receiving suggestions from state officials, the next step for Hubbard's "Building Bridges" proposal is finding proper funds, which would roughly cost \$700,000 a year.

Hubbard, Maryville R-II School District Superintendent Vickie Miller, and Max Ruhl, dean of the College of Education and Human Services, met with state officials and two representatives from the Ewing Marion Kauff-

man Foundation on Jan. 25 in Jefferson City to receive input on the proposal.

The "Building Bridges" proposal, which imitates California's Early Assessment Program, plans to bridge the gap between high school and college curriculums.

The proposal has several objectives, one which plans to align grades K-12 academic standards with first-year courses at Northwest.

Hubbard, Miller and Ruhl met with Mary Cohen, secretary regional representative for the U.S. Department of Education in Kansas City, for input on the proposal, which Cohen is in favor of.

"Everybody is totally supportive," Hubbard said. "I'm just trying to line up the money."

Even though the proposal is open for input by others, there have been no major changes to the proposal, Hubbard said.

Hubbard hopes to have one of the objectives, helping high school seniors improve their reading skills, in effect by this fall.

In the proposal, Hubbard plans to work with Northwest's 14 feeder schools for research and implementing the proposal.

Northwest's feeder schools, which are where Northwest gets a large percentage of its students, are on board with the proposal.

In terms of funding, Hubbard is looking at other foundations and corporations to help pick up some of the funding for the project.

Hubbard plans to ask for three years of funding and

if everything is on track after that time, he will ask for another two or three years.

For some of the funding Hubbard said he is hoping the state would be able to provide some, but the majority of the funding would come from a firm.

Faculty development, data gathering and analysis are some of the areas Hubbard is hoping that the state might be able to fund.

Ruhl said they plan to have a budget ready in four to five weeks to present the proposal and budget to the Kauffman Foundation.

Cohen said there has been a real problem with people presenting research and not making the changes brought up when given input and following through with the research but said that is not the case with the "Building Bridges" proposal.

"Hubbard, Miller and Ruhl are really committed," Cohen said.

—COLUMN

Lessons emerge from local fire

Repetition often proves the best medicine.

But how many times does something have to happen before the lesson is learned?

Two lives were ripped away Saturday because of a fire that could have been prevented and many are minus all of their possessions that rental insurance agent.

A college student would rather spend 12 bucks on a pizza than have rental insurance," said Paul Drake, American Family Insurance agent.

Now former tenants of Carson Apartments are left with virtually nothing except the clothes on their backs.

The Midland Empire Chapter of the American Red Cross in St. Joseph scrambles to find them makeshift shelter and provide them with the basic necessities, but with just a \$12 investment each month, each one of them would have an easier and less financially burdening time of replacing their belongings.

If the lesson of responsibility had sunk in with everyone last March, maybe Brandon Kaut and Derrick Schafer would still be alive. And if the importance of rental insurance had been taken from the article we ran, those who lived to be devastated would maybe be much less.

I knew Brandon as an artist and a friend. We met on the "Smoker's Bench" outside of Dierterich Hall on campus my freshman year. While I teared up reading the comments everyone left for him on Facebook, com and cried at the injustice of it all, I will not claim to have known him well. I didn't know Derrick at all.

For the many close friends and family members each of them had, Saturday will forever be etched in their minds.

Maybe this time the lessons will be etched in ours so the third time doesn't have to be the charm.

—COMMENTS FROM NWMISSOURINews.COM

Editor's note: Here are some of the comments received online. To comment on future articles, visit our Web site at nwmissourinews.com.

In response to "Deadly fire destroys apartment complex," 1/27

Deanna Qaoud posted: 1/29/07

My name is Cindy White, the mother of Brandon Kaut. I would love for the families of Derrick Schafer and the young man who was seriously injured to please contact me so we can support each other at this devastating time. mom-to-3boys@hotmail.com. Please, Brandon would want this. He lays to rest tonight leaving many, many memories. You all need hugs, too. Please contact me.

Sue Boss posted: 1/30/07

My name is Sue Boss and my son Ryan Boss had lived in Apt. No. 5 on the first floor in the Carson Apartments for the past four years, but just moved to Kansas City only three months ago to start a new job. Ryan was a team leader at Kawasaki and knew Brandon and Derrick from both work and as friends.

Our hearts and prayers go out to their families as well as all the other residents who lost everything. It was such a shock and is such a tragedy that I can't even imagine what all the families are going through. We all need to voice our concerns to state, county and local building departments to implement stricter fire codes in rental properties.

Stephanie Stangl
Editor-in-Chief

assuming something so devastating will ever happen to them.

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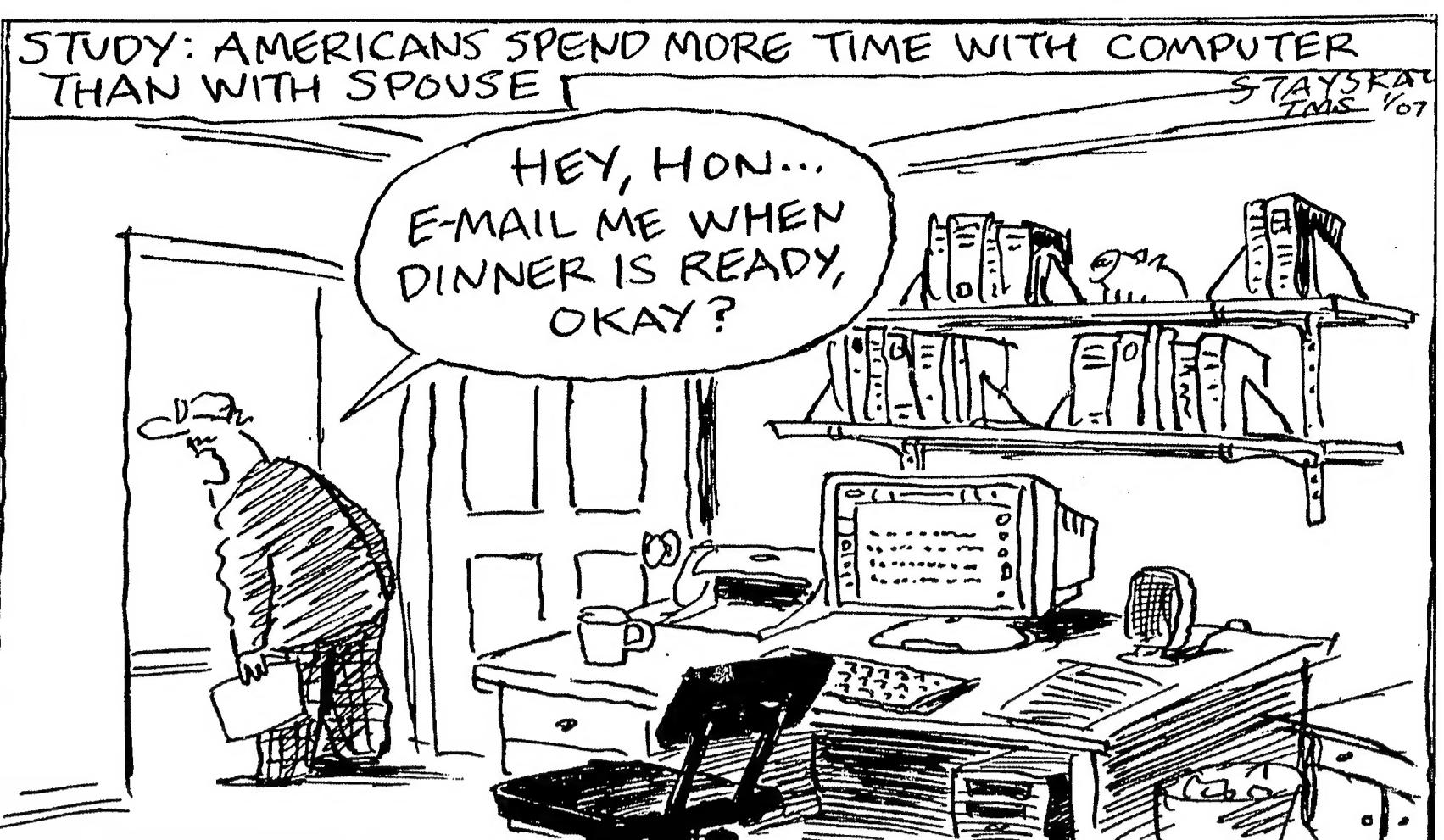
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—COLUMN

Give me someone who can win

When Hillary Clinton announced her intention to run for president in 2008, I did not exactly perform a Tiger Woods-style fist pump or let out a series of whoops of excitement.

Why not? Because

if the early predictions are correct and she wins the Democratic Party's nomination, it could mark the beginning of a crushing victory next fall.

For the many close friends and family members each of them had, Saturday will forever be etched in their minds.

Maybe this time the lessons will be etched in ours so the third time doesn't have to be the charm.

Sam Robinson
Chief Reporter

to Bill Clinton, the man at the helm for eight years of peace and economic prosperity, this country has not witnessed since.

The problem is, I don't think Clinton can win. She is seen as robotic and not endearing enough, especially in comparison to prime competitor Barack Obama, a man who oozes charisma. She has spent so much time on the country's biggest stage, that the opposition

viewed as intellectual but nowhere near the leader Giuliani is. If the Republicans do one thing well, it's swaying public opinion. They are shrewd manipulators and know what people want to hear. If they could get Bush re-elected on the coattails of gay marriage, they will surely paint an unflattering picture of Clinton, whose war policy is not exactly stable.

This is not the time to take risks. A woman will be president someday, but not now. They need the moderates' support more than ever and cannot nominate someone who many fringe voters already don't like. Democrats are in a rare position of power and handing the keys to an unstable candidate would be an epic mistake.

They need to nominate someone like Edwards who can charm the people, get elected and attempt to undo the atrocities the Bush White House created. However, if Clinton does win the presidency, she will have definitely earned it and I will gladly eat all of these words.

With such a crucial election where power balance and the Iraq war hinge on the outcome, it would be extremely unwise to nominate such a divisive figure. Whichever the Democrats nominate they must go against McCain or Giuliani, who will each be a formidable opponent.

McCain is the front-runner, while Giuliani is reversed by New Yorkers and numerous Americans for his leadership after Sept. 11. Clinton is

viewed as intellectual but nowhere near the leader Giuliani is. If the Republicans do one thing well, it's swaying public opinion. They are shrewd manipulators and know what people want to hear. If they could get Bush re-elected on the coattails of gay marriage, they will surely paint an unflattering picture of Clinton, whose war policy is not exactly stable.

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Perhaps I need to clarify myself. I am a super liberal. I stand to the far left on nearly all major issues like gun control, abortion and military spending. In saying those things, I think Hillary Clinton would make a great president. She is a strong proponent of education spending and even stricter gun control laws. She is very intelligent and the closest link

she is to

serve as clarification. My thoughts and prayers will continue for the family and friends who have suffered loss here and for the continued healing of our community.

Cindy White
posted: 1/29/07

My name is Cindy White, the mother of Brandon Kaut. I would love for the families of Derrick Schafer and the young man who was seriously injured to please contact me so we can support each other at this devastating time. mom-to-3boys@hotmail.com. Please, Brandon would want this. He lays to rest tonight leaving many, many memories. You all need hugs, too. Please contact me.

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Tara Atkins
Features Editor

It felt uncomfortable to cry at her funeral with all eyes on me. Everyone told me I was a spitting image of her when she was young.

If only prevention

would have been possible at her stage.

It takes the lives of

3,900 American women

each year, and in 1998,

my grandma was also

its victim.

Cervical cancer is

curable and preventable,

yet many

overlooked.

It is a slowly

developed

cancer

caused by abnor-

mal

cell

changes in the lining of the cervix.

To know cervical cancer can be

trouble-free with treatment in early

detection, women absolutely have to get that yearly visit to the doctor for prevention.

Looking at the life

lessons poster plastered to the ceiling during the longest 30 seconds of your life is nothing women look forward to.

Sure the doctor who

stiffly tells you to just relax while poking and prodding in uncomfortable places is dreaded,

but having blood in your urine and

pain shooting throughout your lower body because of pressure from a tumor makes the annual visit worth it. It beats the hair loss, vomiting, diarrhea and bruised sores left on the body after chemotherapy.

You've seen the commercials.

Young girls and their mothers hold-

ing hands with sincerity pasted all over their faces. Through braiding each other's hair and painting "one less" on the sides of buildings, they hope you tell someone about the vaccine. By spreading the word, they just might make you a member of their HPV-free club like it's a Tuesday afternoon tea party. However, the message is real and critical to women's health.

Cervical cancer can be detected

easily through regular cervical

screenings and avoidance of the

Human Papillomavirus, the virus

that causes most cervical cancer

cases. However, since 4.6 million

people ages 15 to 24 get HPV, avoid-

ance is difficult, according to the

American Social Health Association.

Luckily, the new vaccine, Gardasil,

prevents the exposure to the strains

of HPV that cause cervical cancer.

Take the advice and tell some-

one.

—COLUMN

Editor urges women to get HPV vaccine

Breann Kaut
posted: 1/29/07

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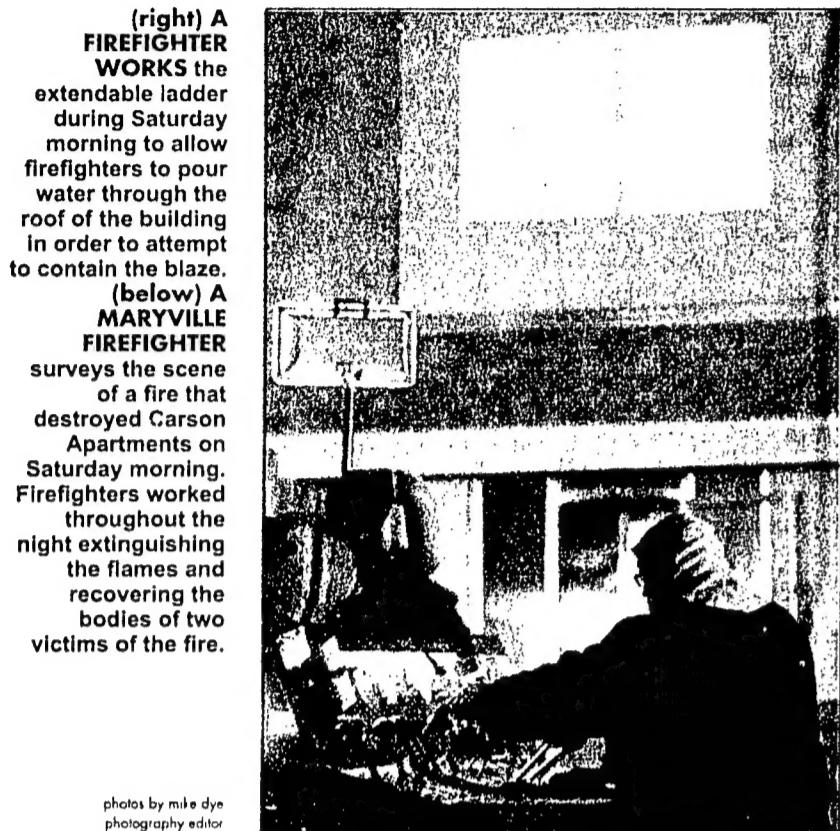
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SCENES OF THE AFTERMATH



Grand Buffet

includes salad bar, chinese, and kitchen items



\$3.99 Kids
8.99 Adults
\$6.99 Seniors
Open 11am-8pm Daily

HuVe
EMPLOYEE OWNED

official food store of the Bearcats

1217 S. Main Maryville, MO 660.582.2191

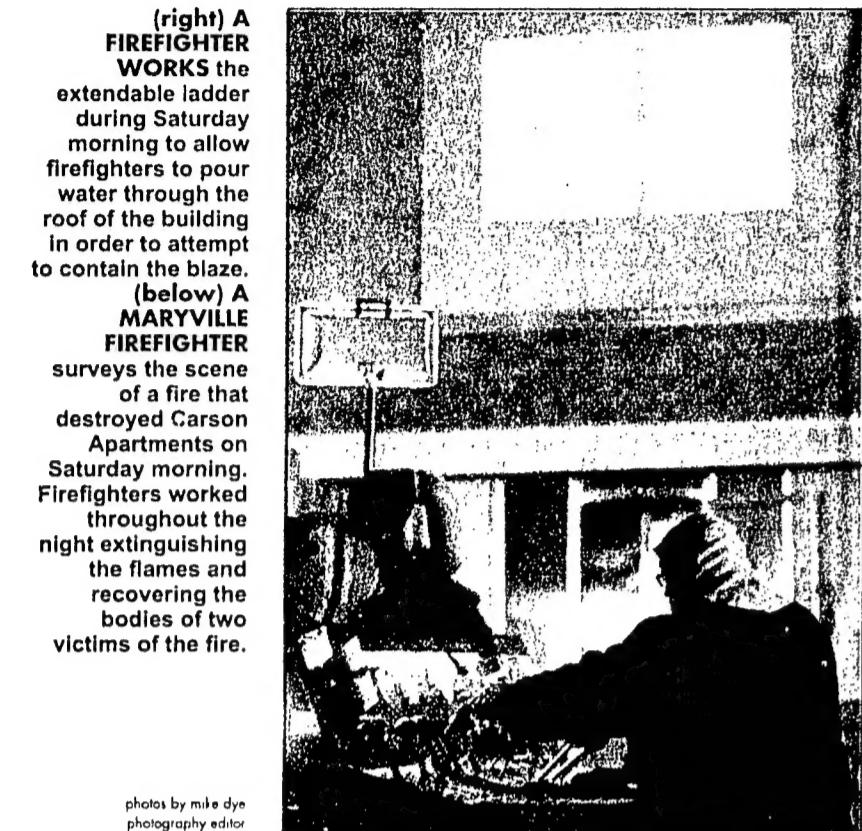


(above) FIREFIGHTERS COMFORT one another after they pulled the body of an individual out of the second floor of Carson Apartments on Saturday afternoon. (below) FRIENDS OF Brandon Kuhn, one of two victims of the fire, gather at the ruins of Carson Apartments to share their memories of him around 8 p.m. Sunday night.

photo by mike dye
photography editor

MISSOURIAN
A6 THURSDAY
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INSIDE

Men's, women's previews, track
'Hounds basketball, jumps
Alternative Spring Break
Stroller / The Vibe

B2
B3
B4
B5 / B6

-INJURY UPDATE

Qaoud's injuries not fatal

By Brett Barger
University Sports Editor

Northwest wide receiver Abe Qaoud continues to recover from injuries sustained in a fire at Carson Apartments, early Saturday morning.

Qaoud, who is being treated at University of Kansas Medical Center, is listed in fair condition, according to hospital spokesman Dennis Minich.

"If you were to ask him any questions, he would tell you that all the credit, all the glory, goes to God," said David Qaoud, Abe's brother.

David said Abe suffered third-degree burns to his legs, a fractured eye socket, bruised lung, separated shoulder and rib fractures after jumping out of his apartment window to avoid the blaze.

David also said his brother was sick and had taken some NyQuil before bed and was in a deep sleep when he awoke around 3:30 a.m.

A man was coming with a ladder to assist Abe, but he was forced to jump because of the buildup of flames and smoke. After falling on his face, Abe blacked out and didn't wake up until he was in the hospital. Qaoud had grabbed a piece of the ladder before plummeting two stories to the ground.

The family then received a phone call from Northwest coach Mel Tjerdema around 6 a.m. to let the family know what had happened, according to David.

"We're all thankful he is alive and in the recovery stage," Tjerdema said, speaking by phone from El Paso, Texas, where he will participate in the Inaugural Texas vs. The Nation All-Star Challenge on Friday. After learning that Qaoud's injuries were not life-threatening, Tjerdema boarded a plane for Texas.

Qaoud said his brother has received a lot of visits from members



Abe Qaoud
injured student

photo by mike dye
photography editor

see QAOUD on B3

Howard arrested for theft

By Brett Barger
University Sports Editor

Northwest point guard Mose Howard faces one count of stealing after allegedly taking money out of a wallet left by a customer at a Wal-Mart.

The shopper, K.C. Collins, left his wallet on a register after purchasing items on Jan. 21. After Collins called Maryville Public Safety to report the missing cash, a review of surveillance cameras showed Howard allegedly lifting the cash out of the wallet.

"I still feel like he's a good person. I'm disappointed he didn't make a better decision," Northwest coach Steve Tappmeyer said.

Northwest Athletic Director Bob Boerigter, unaware of the arrest, declined to comment.

Howard is sitting out the season after tearing his ACL in last April. Last season, Howard averaged 13.5 points per game, leading the Bearcats to the Sweet 16.

9.22

Seconds—

Hannah's current

fastest time in the

60-meter hurdles

2

All-MIAA honors,
outdoor 100-meter
hurdles and 400-
meter hurdles

Hunter and Hannah share accolades as collegiate athletes. As sophomores, Hannah is a record-holding runner on the track and field team, while Hunter is helping lead the No. 16 Bearcats basketball team this season.

BY THE NUMBERS

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-NW WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Women hope to even series



'Cat's face Central Missouri for second time in two weeks

By Cali Arnold
Community Sports Editor

The Northwest women finally got what they've been looking for all month last Saturday.

Now they hope they can start February the same way.

After a convincing win against Southwest Baptist Jan. 27 in Bearcat Arena, the Bearcats are hoping to start a win streak, while on their home floor. The win was the first on a weekend in January for the team.

After Wednesday's game against Emporia State (game information not available at press time), the team is looking for a rematch against Central Missouri Saturday. Northwest lost the first contest Jan. 20, 80-69.

Northwest coach Gene Steinmeyer said this time his team has a better idea of what to look for against the Jennies. Seeing what the opponent will do against the 'Cats defensive strategy interests him most, he added.

Senior Katie O'Grady said playing in Maryville this time is a plus for her team.

"Definitely we need some big wins,"

O'Grady said. "So hopefully the home court advantage will help us out."

While the win against Southwest Baptist felt good to Steinmeyer, he said he has no way of knowing if breaking the weekend losing streak will bring his team back around.

"The truthful answer is there's not a soul, not a person on this team and not a coach on this team, that knows," Steinmeyer said. "It's a day-by-day process, and all I know is that I feel better on Sunday morning than I have in a month."

The bright spot for O'Grady is the team's defense as of late. On the season, the 'Cats have allowed 66.6 points per game, while scoring 72.4.

While the win against Baptist was nice, O'Grady admitted the team will take any win it can get at this point in the season. Although Steinmeyer told the team there are no "moral victories," she said the team knows they can win the next game.

"Recently our communication on defense has been pretty good and I think hopefully it will show," O'Grady said. "Hopefully it will prove to our teammates that we have to communicate and we can work hard on defense and get the win."

Both Central Missouri and Northwest are fighting to stay in the top half of the MIAA standings. The Jennies and 'Cats will tip off at 1:30 p.m., Saturday, in Bearcat Arena.

"Definitely we need some big wins,"

-NW TRACK

'Cats nab titles at South Dakota

By Scott Levine
Asst. Sports Editor

The Northwest men's and women's track squads garnered seven individual titles Saturday at South Dakota. Four men attained championships, while two women notched first place.

Kaile Cook was the lone Bearcat to win two separate events. Despite trailing during the 60-meter run, Cook came back and finished first.

"Cook is doing things technically this year that she wasn't last year," Northwest coach Scott Lorek said. "Coming from behind in a race hasn't happened often either."

Cook also grabbed a victory in the 200-meter run. During that run, Cook entered the final stretch neck-and-neck with a runner and pulled the win.

Although the Bearcats featured only nine members, four other

women placed in the top three. Lindsay Biermann tallied a first place finish in the high jump. Biermann jumped 17-5 1/4 on her final jump for the victory.

Brandi Honeywell placed third in the long jump, while Hannah Henry added a third place finish in the 60-meter hurdles.

Henry lowered her school record in the prelims with a time of 9.22 as Aiden O'Brien finished third in the one-mile run.

"It was a positive for everyone," Lorek said. "It was a good chance to get everyone more training. We learned a lot."

The Northwest men also achieved success in South Dakota. Bayo Adiu, Brandon Schoen, Jeff Kanger and Ike Urum-Eke placed each first in their respective events.

Adio finished first in the high jump and second in the triple jump, while Urum-Eke provisionally qualified.

"It's just three weeks into the

semester, but I feel good about our chances," Urum-Eke said. "We've still got a lot of conditioning left to do, as we should at this time of year."

The Bearcat men are also ranked No. 4 by D2rankings.com. Central Missouri, ranked 16th, is the only other MIAA team ranked.

"This ranking doesn't mean we're first in the conference," Urum-Eke said. "There is no ranking, it's just stats."

"Winning races is important to a certain caliber, because the more you win, the better you feel. For the most part, however, improving is what we're trying to do."

Both teams are off this weekend, before traveling to Central Missouri.

Lorek said the off week should be good rest for his team.

"This will be a good mental break," Lorek said. "We're keeping improving and we want to be in the thick of things in the conference."

NORTHWEST GUARD Andy Peterson dunks the ball during the first half of the game against the Southwest Baptist Bearcats on Saturday night held in Bearcat Arena. The Northwest Bearcats beat the Southwest Baptist Bearcats 68-63.



photo by mike dye | photography editor

NORTHWEST GUARD Meghan Brue makes a jump shot in double coverage against the Southwest Baptist defense in the second half of Saturday evening's game. The Northwest Bearcats beat the Southwest Baptist Bearcats 64-49.

-NW FOOTBALL

Tjeerdsma to coach in national all-star game

By Brett Barger
University Sports Editor

Northwest coach Mel Tjeerdsma is returning to Texas.

After last coaching in the Lone Star state 14 years ago, Tjeerdsma will be a part of the Inaugural Texas vs. The Nation All-Star Challenge, to be held Friday night in El Paso, Texas.

"I'm excited about it," Tjeerdsma said. "It'll be a good time."

Tjeerdsma will serve on the Texas team as the offensive coordinator—a position that he held this past season. The Texas team will be coached by UTEP campus.

"They've got great facilities and

coach Mike Price. The Nation team will be headed up by Buddy Ryan, who coached the Philadelphia Eagles for five seasons and was the defensive coordinator of the Chicago Bears when they won Super Bowl XX last year.

The game will be attended by NFL scouts. Throughout the week, players from all divisions will be measured and interviewed by scouts. Before selection, players must have completed their senior season, met NFL draft eligibility and recommendations from coaches.

Among the players selected, four will be representing the MIAA with Central Missouri quarterback Toby Korrodi starting for the Texas team. Missouri Southern offensive tackle Allen Barbee, Missouri Western tight end Cijon Robinson, Missouri Southern offensive tackle Patrick Murray

and Washburn defensive tackle Trey Lewis round out the other MIAA selections.

"They're all serious (players) because it's a job interview for them," Tjeerdsma said.

Northwest Athletic Director Bob Boerger said he is honored to have been selected to the All-Star game.

A win against Central would go a long way for a club that's 2-1 against ranked opponents and still in the conference race despite sitting in third place in the MIAA through Wednesday. After Central, Northwest will travel Wednesday to Truman State, which ends the tour of upper tier teams in the conference.

The rest of Northwest's schedule is against teams with a combined record of 43-52.

-NABC MEN'S COACHES' POLL

No. School	Record
1. Winona St.	19-0
2. Central Missouri	18-0
3. Bentley (Mass.)	19-0
4. Minnesota St.	20-1
5. Findlay (Ohio)	18-1
6. Clayton St. (Ga.)	18-1
7. Grand Valley St.	18-2
8. Metro St. (Colo.)	17-2
9. Emporia St.	17-1
10. SE Oklahoma St.	16-2
11. Cal St.-San Bernardino	13-3
12. Southern Indiana	19-3
13. Quincy (Ill.)	16-4
14. Millersville (Pa.)	17-2
15. Humboldt St. (Calif.)	14-3
16. Northwest	15-4
17. (tie) Cal Poly Pomona	12-4
18. (tie) West Liberty St.	16-2
19. California (Pa.)	15-3
20. Virginia Union	11-3
21. (tie) Augusta St. (Ga.)	16-3
22. (tie) Nebraska-Kearney	15-3
23. Benedict (S.C.)	15-1
24. Henderson St. (Ariz.)	14-5
25. (tie) Bryant (R.I.)	14-5
25. (tie) Rollins (Fla.)	17-3



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-NW MEN'S BASKETBALL

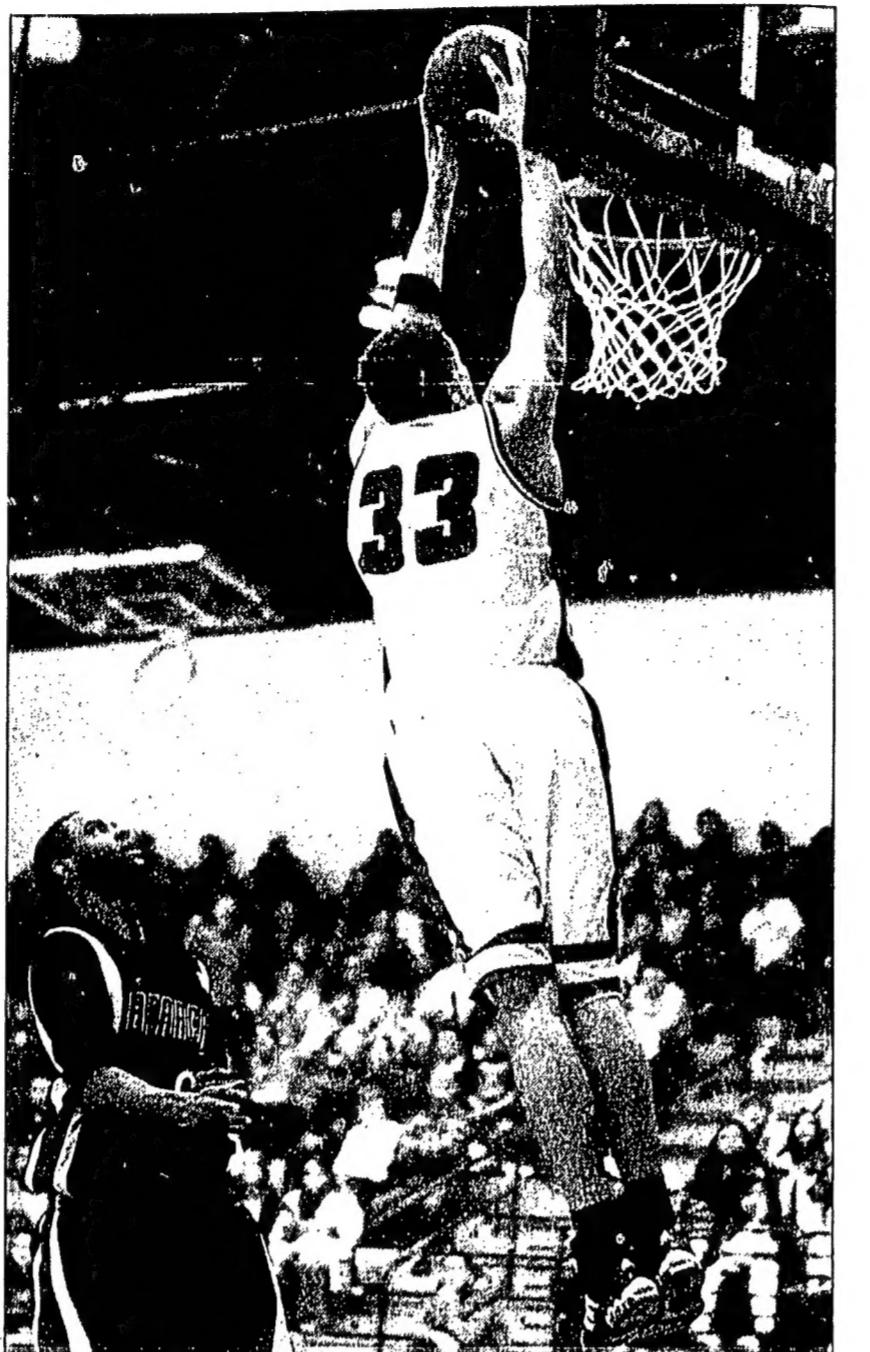


photo by mike dye | photography editor

NORTHWEST GUARD Meghan Brue makes a jump shot in double coverage against the Southwest Baptist defense in the second half of Saturday evening's game. The Northwest Bearcats beat the Southwest Baptist Bearcats 64-49.

CATS HOUNDS

-COLUMN

Support surfaces through tragedy

It's sad to know that sometimes a tragedy is what it takes to bring people together.

I've seen it twice now since first coming to Maryville in Fall 2005. First, one year ago, it was the fatal house explosion that took the lives of a mother and son, Lois and Carroll Hall. Another son, Donald, survived the explosion.

Now, one year later, it

was an apartment fire, also claiming two lives and severely injuring another. Derrick Schafer and Brandon Kaut died Saturday morning, and Abe Qaoud is at the University of Kansas Medical Center, being treated for severe injuries.

Qaoud, a wide receiver for the Northwest football team, is just one of many people who have changed the world of sports through injury or, for some, death. It was not the names of the victims from Saturday's fire I heard first, it was the name of the football player who was injured.

We can assume that if the Colts beat the Bears, Manning will have dissected the Bears' great defense and subjected some poor defensive backs to their worst "SportsCenter" nightmares.

It's that way on every level in the sports world, whether it is high school basketball or major league baseball. One instance was the death of pitcher Darryl Kile of the St. Louis Cardinals in 2002.

Approximately 5,000 fans—not teammates and friends, but people who had never personally met the man—paid tribute to Kile at the memorial service days after his death.

He meant so much to his manager, Tony La Russa, that he has Kile's practice jersey hanging in his office.

Northwest will lock horns with No. 2 Central Missouri, Saturday at Bearcat Arena. Northwest fell hard against the Mules, 65-55, on Jan. 20.

"I think in order to beat these good teams, you've got to bring everything together," Tappmeyer said.

Reggie Robinson practiced well on Tuesday. Robinson has been nursing a deep-thigh bruise.

"Today (Tuesday) was the first day where I thought he was close to 100 percent," Tappmeyer said.

Peterson says the "defensive consistency and defensive rebounding will be huge."

"We didn't really play Bearcat defense the whole game," Peterson said, referring to the loss to Central.

Athletes are heroes to many. Some may find that a crazy statement.

Soldiers defend our freedom, firefighters save lives and our parents taught us everything we need to know about life.

So why athletes of all people?

Athletes live out our dreams. They do everything we wish we could have done instead of working a 9-to-5 job five days a week.

They are there for us every weekend when we have time off, and even with a loss, they never let us down.

They help us remember the glory days when we were in high school and were heroes to the younger generation. And while they work just as hard, if not harder than everyone else, they seem to have the easy life we can only dream of.

Qaoud is now a hero. After waking up to a burning apartment Saturday, he scrambled to the window.

To save his life he was forced to jump out. Does that classify him as a hero?

According to a Facebook group titled "Abe Qaoud is my hero," Wednesday afternoon, 800 people think he is.

For someone who survived third degree burns, a fractured eye socket and ribs, a bruised lung; and a separated shoulder, I think it's up to you to decide.

Is Qaoud a hero, or merely a survivor?

Personally, I think he can be labeled as both.

QUESTIONABLE CALL

QUESTIONABLE CALL



photo by mike dye | photography editor

NORTHWEST MEN'S basketball head coach Steve Tappmeyer reacts to a call by the referees during the Jan. 17 game against Truman State.

photo by mike dye | photography editor

Spring into action

By Lindsay Jacobs
Assistant Features Editor

This spring she will be three for three. Senior Jamie Eickoff, will be one of the few to go on all three Northwest Alternative Spring Breaks.

In 2005, Eickoff, saw a flyer, and the idea of going to Florida and helping others intrigued her.

"I've always been into volunteering," Eickoff said.

Alternative Spring Break, a not-for-profit volunteer program at Northwest which sends students to various national locations, the students on these trips work in communities with issues including social justice, environmental health, disaster relief and recovery.

Amy Nally, volunteer programs and service learning coordinator, said ASB gives students an opportunity to work with other students in communities that have experienced a disaster or if they are in need of assistance.

"It helps a student grow and learn about themselves while working to assist others who are in need in the community," Nally said. "It's a life-changing experience that can challenge and expand your understanding of yourself and society."

ASB also helps students understand others and what they are going through, Nally said.

This year an estimated 30 students will travel to Miami from March 17 to 24 and build houses with the Habitat for Humanity-Collegiate Challenge.

Collegiate Challenge is an alternative break program that lasts year-round, according to Habitat.org.

The trip will cost students \$300, which includes transportation, housing, food, entertainment, the participation fee for Habitat for Humanity, accidental insurance and a T-shirt.

Fund-raising options are available and students are asked to raise an additional \$100 by selling Pizza Hut and Sonic cards. Students must also turn in 10 names and addresses with their application to send donation letters. Any additional money they raise beyond the \$100 will go towards their \$300 expense.

Freshman Kendra Sogard plans to go on ASB this spring. She said her sister went her freshman year and she really liked it.

Sogard is looking forward to meeting new people.

People have the rest of their lives to go to traditional spring break destinations, Eickoff said.

"You can go to Cancun any time in your life, but you only get one chance to make a difference in somebody's life during spring break," Eickoff said.

In 2005, about 30 Northwest students to Winter Park, Fla., to work with ESTEEM Inc., a not-for-profit organization that provides children's programs that target academics, employability skills and literacy.

ESTEEM is an acronym for Enhancing Self-



BEARCAT VOLUNTEERS work on a Habitat for Humanity construction site Spring Break 2006. This year volunteers will travel to Florida to work with Habitat for Humanity's Collegiate Challenge in Miami.

sufficiency Through Education, Employment and Multiculturalism.

The group ran a spring break camp put on by ESTEEM for children who didn't have anywhere to go for Spring Break, Eickoff said.

The group served as mentors for the children, whose ages ranged from eight to 15, Eickoff said.

They took the children to the playground, taught some of them how to tie their shoes and read with them.

"I like kids so I guess it was just being able to give them a spring break so they weren't sitting home watching television all day," Eickoff said. "They could actually get outside and play... it was just really good to have an impact

on somebody."

The children asked for the students' addresses, and even though she never received any letters, Eickoff said she wrote a couple of letters to the children.

Last year ASB traveled to Birmingham, Ala., and worked with Habitat for Humanity. The students divided into two groups to work at two sites. Eickoff's group built the roof and did the wood work on the inner walls.

She was excited to build a house because it was a new experience.

"The first day was kind of nerve-racking because you're really considering it, it's a great experience," Eickoff said. "You get to meet a lot of awesome people, you get to help a lot of awesome people."

The site supervisor she worked with told the

students what they had to do, and encouraged them to try new things and equipment, Eickoff said.

Sophomore Tiffany Hunter also went on the trip last spring. She decided to go because it was inexpensive and would be a new experience.

Hunter said the Habitat for Humanity people were helpful and tolerant.

Although she is not able to go this year due to prior commitments, she recommends people giving ASB a try.

Those who are interested in participating ASB can contact Nally at 562-1954 or pick up an application in her office in the Student Affairs Complex. Application deadline is Friday, Feb. 2.

"I'd encourage anybody thinking about going to really consider it, it's a great experience," Eickoff said. "You get to meet a lot of awesome people."

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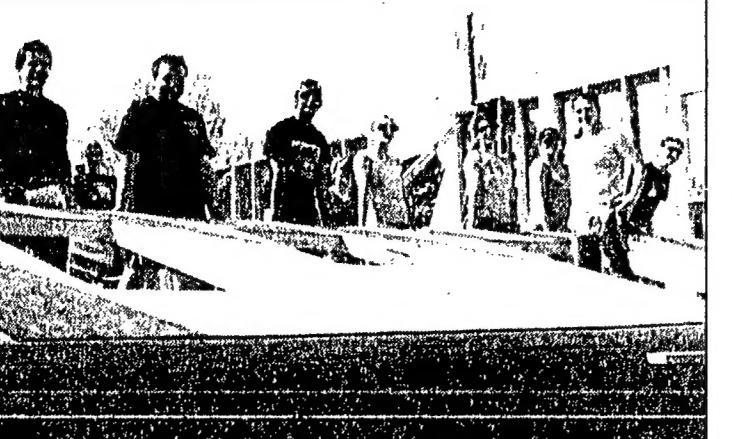
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NORTHWEST STUDENTS lift a wall into place while building a house for Habitat for Humanity. Around 30 students spent their 2006 Spring Break in Birmingham, Ala.

Many students are willing to give up their spring break to help others



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the vibe

Each year, 2 out of every 5 women diagnosed with cervical cancer DIE.

Get vaccinated for HPV; you can be
ONE LESS

By Tara Adkins
Features Editor

After coming home from class, Northwest junior Erin Murphy received an unexpected phone call. On the other end, her mother reassured her everything would be OK.

Despite the upbeat sound of her voice, Murphy knew her mother was sick and as a family, provided her with comfort and support.

It started as a virus, but developed into complications, precancerous cells and eventually into cervical cancer.

"We were obviously scared and worried for her, but we all knew she was going to be OK in such early stages," Murphy said. "Today, three years later, she's doing great."

Through her mother's persistence, Murphy took action to prevent the virus, that struck her mother, from ever reaching her.

"My mom had it when she was our age, but no one knew about the problems it would cause then," Murphy said.

Recent television commercials flood the airwaves with the message insisting on telling someone to become one less statistic.

Although a virus may commonly be thought of as just a bug, the Human Papillomavirus creates a threat for women and men.

Last summer, Merck and Co. launched Gardasil, the vaccine for young women aimed at preventing exposure to the sexual transmitted disease, HPV.

About 80 percent of sexually active people become exposed to HPV in their lifetime, according to the American Social Health Association.

"HPV has become so prevalent and this is how we can stop this virus from spreading," said Teri Harr, health education coordinator at

St. Francis Hospital.

HPV has several strains that cause no harm. However, Gardasil protects against four, high-risk HPV strains: types six, 11, 16 and 18.

These types can develop into abnormal cell changes and genital infections and cause for over 70 percent of cervical cancer and 90 percent of genital warts, according to Merck.

Through a series of three shots over six months, the vaccine is intended for protection for eight to 10 years. The vaccine is recommended for ages nine to 26 because it is most effective when a young woman has not yet had sex or when a woman is most susceptible of being exposed to HPV.

"Risk factors go down as a person matures because a woman usually begins limiting sexual partners and becoming more stable in relationships the older she gets," said Judy Frueh, University nurse practitioner.

Although doctors still require regular Pap smears and DNA tests, the vaccine proves to be 99.8 percent effective.

Also, Gardasil still protects women who are already infected with one of the four HPV types against the three other types of HPV they could possibly be exposed to.

With such a high efficiency rate comes a hefty price. St. Francis Hospital offers the injections at \$156 per dose. To complete the series, a woman will have to empty her wallet for almost \$500. However, the University Health Center offers a cheaper rate, yet still at \$130 for each dose.

"If I was a young lady and I could take a vaccine that would prevent cervical cancer and other risks, it'd be worth it," said Pat Harr, St. Francis family physician.

When the vaccine was first approved by the Food and Drug Administration, few insurance

carriers would cover it because most plans do not cover preventive vaccines. However, seven months later, several private health plans are just now beginning to offer coverage.

"We give a lot of those shots here. St. Francis Family Healthcare is giving more and more because insurance can now cover it," Teri said.

Because men can also carry the virus, Merck has performed tests on the vaccine's effect on young men. However, the tests proved the vaccine was not helpful for men but finding prevention for them is the next step, Pat said.

The Gardasil advertisements show mothers and daughters entangled in hugs and young girls playing double-dutch jump rope chanting "O-N-E L-E-S-S, I want to be one less."

The ads and statistics make Gardasil seem nothing but positive, but to some parents it is encouraging sex for young women.

"The big issue here is that it is promoting sexual promiscuity, but we are eradicating cervical cancer," Frueh said. "The bottom line is to keep kids healthy."

Despite the stigma in the general population, health care experts stress how Gardasil message is prevention.

"Young women should have very few sexual partners and regular Pap smears. Although (Pap smears) detect signs early on, it's not prevention like the vaccine," Teri said. "The benefits outweigh the risks."

Like Gardasil's message, Murphy spreads the word after getting the vaccine to her friends about her mother's experience and her own prevention.

"I'm not ashamed. I did something all women should do. I'm telling everyone I know," Murphy said.